Minister terms Shakarparian tree felling systematic, 'unacceptable'

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Climate Change Musadik Malik on Tuesday visited the tree-cutting site near Lok Virsa in Shakarparian, declaring the systematic felling of fully grown trees "unacceptable" and warning of strict legal action where environmental laws have been violated.

Speaking at the site, the minister acknowledged public outrage over the loss of tree cover and stressed that environmental protection remained a priority of the government.

He said the matter had drawn serious attention due to its impact on Islamabad's ecological balance, landscape and air quality.

"We are here to review the circumstances under which the trees were removed and ensure that accountability mechanisms will be applied if violations of environmental regulations were found," the minister said, emphasising the need for development projects to comply strictly with environmental laws and sustainability standards.

The minister said spring was the appropriate season for the plantation of saplings and that reforestation must follow sound ecological principles.

Shakarparian, spread over 3,499 acres and forming part of the Margalla Hills National Park, has seen 27 acres cleared of paper mulberry, while 1,001 indigenous trees were reportedly saved, Musadik Malik said, adding that, "Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) will verify these figures."

He added that a public hearing had been claimed to have been held and that the ministry had summoned its minutes for review. The minister said Pak-EPA had clear instructions to initiate legal action and issue show-cause notices against any development or construction activity carried out without mandatory environmental approvals.

"We will visit all sites where construction is underway. If paperwork is incomplete, law will take its course," he said, warning of heavy penalties.

He announced that an amendment to existing laws was being proposed to ensure financial penalties for cutting trees and destroying forests were commensurate with the offence. "We will recommend that penalties be several times higher," he said. The minister reiterated that for every tree cut, three trees would be planted as part of compensatory measures.

It remains unclear if a public hearing had been held for the upgrading of a public park in Sector H-8, where heavy machinery continued to clear and level green cover. He said media would be invited again in spring for a plantation drive, calling it a commitment to Islamabad's residents. "The dream is to restore wildlife — fireflies and green parrots. Wildlife cannot be restored by planting foreign species," he added. Briefing the minister, Director Environment, Capital Development Authority (CDA) Chaudhry Akhtar Rasool said six indigenous species such as chir pine, kachnar, amaltas, jacaranda, arjan and sterculia, were being planted.— Jamal Shahid

WWF disputes CDA's claim on tree cutting

Says beyond pollen and allergies, Islamabad's recent tree removal reflects broader challenges in urban planning

By Kashif Abbasi

ISLAMABAD: WWF-Pakistan on Tuesday disputed Islamabad authorities' stance that paper mulberry trees were removed in the capital for causing allergies, stating that the action was also linked to infrastructure development.

Recently, large-scale tree removal took place in at least three locations in the federal capital, including acres of tree cover around Shakarparian. Islamabad's Capital Development Authority (CDA) has maintained that only paper mulberry trees were removed as they had been causing pollen allergies. Earlier on Tuesday, Minister of State for Interior Tallal Chaudhry assured lawmakers that more trees would be planted in the coming months.

"WWF-Pakistan's field assessments indicate that vegetation loss in the capital is not limited to Paper Mulberry management alone, but is also linked to infrastructure development in multiple locations," the environmental body said on social media.

"Beyond pollen and allergies, Islamabad's recent tree removal reflects broader challenges in urban planning," it added.

Social media users and even some lawmakers have alleged that, besides paper mulberry, old indigenous trees were also chopped down.

Responding to those queries in the National Assembly on Tuesday, Chaudhry explained there were "three possible reasons" for removing the trees: the presence of paper mulberry species; areas designated as brown zones in Islamabad's Master Plan but commonly regarded as green until development began, including Embassy Road; and sectors also considered as green areas until they were built.

"I am saying with utmost responsibility that no other species was removed," he asserted, about the claims of other species besides the paper mulberry being cut.

In its Facebook post, WWF-Pakistan noted: "Urban trees play a critical role in soil stability, climate regulation, and biodiversity support.

"Any tree removal must follow evidence-based planning, legal compliance, and clear restoration commitments to ensure long-term ecological balance," it demanded.

The environmental organisation also shared a report that consolidated findings from its "field inspections on tree-cutting and land-clearing activities in Islamabad with key policy, health and ecological considerations related to the ongoing removal of paper mulberry (Broussonetia papyrifera) and cutting of trees for construction of infrastructure".

"Between December 2025 and January 2026, extensive tree cutting and land clearing activities were widely reported through social and formal media across multiple locations in the Islamabad, including Shakarparian, Lok Virsa, the National Museum precinct, the Islamabad Expressway (H-8), and the Margalla Enclave Link Road near the National Institute of Health (NIH)," WWF-Pakistan stated.

It added that "several" of these activities were associated with "major infrastructure development works, including road construction and monument-related projects, resulting in large-scale clearance of trees and natural vegetation".

Subsequently, WWF-Pakistan carried out field verification to "assess the nature, scale, and underlying drivers of these activities, and to distinguish between vegetation removal linked to infrastructure development and that undertaken for public-health purposes".

The report noted that paper mulberry had been identified by environmental and medical experts as a "major contributor to seasonal pollen allergies in Islamabad, causing allergic rhinitis, asthma and related respiratory issues".

"Under directives from the Prime Minister's Office and public health authorities, CDA launched a structured programme to systematically remove this species from parks, greenbelts and public spaces," it recalled.

WWF-Pakistan found: "Overall, field evidence and available documentation indicate that while a significant portion of tree removal across Islamabad is associated with the paper mulberry eradication programme driven by public-health considerations, substantial vegetation loss has also resulted from infrastructure development, particularly along the H-8 Islamabad Expressway (proposed monument site) and the Margalla Enclave Link Road.

"At the H-8 site alone, infrastructure-related land clearing has resulted in an estimated net loss of approximately five hectares of urban tree and vegetation cover."

While noting that reforestation and compensatory plantation efforts were reportedly underway at several locations, the report said their "visibility, consistency, and ecological design, especially at infrastructure sites, remain unclear".

"The long-term ecological success of these interventions will therefore depend on transparent decision-making, clear and site-specific restoration planning, prioritisation of native species, and independent monitoring to ensure that Islamabad's green character and ecological integrity are effectively safeguarded," it added.

As per the report, "official sources" indicated that more than 29,000 paper mulberry trees have been removed citywide, including from Shakarparian, Fatima Jinnah Park (F-9), and greenbelts along Park Road and the H-8 Expressway.

Calling attention notice in NA

PTI MNA Riaz Fatyana moved a calling attention notice in the National Assembly on the tree-cutting in the capital and the public concern it was causing.

In reply, Minister of State for Interior Tallal Chaudhry informed lawmakers that 29,115 trees had been removed, while "40,000 trees of more than 8-10 feet have been planted".

He said another 60,000 trees will be planted in the same areas on March 30, when the weather will be more suitable for planting.

The CDA has maintained that only paper mulberry trees were removed, as they had been causing pollen allergy. However, social media users had alleged that besides paper mulberry indigenous trees were also chopped down, making Shakarparian look like barren land.

Climate Change Minister Musadiq Malik has defended the move, stating that paper mulberry was an invasive and "life-threatening" species.

Speaking in the NA, Chaudhry invited the house and journalists to assess the green areas based on the Normalised Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) process, adding that the responsible authorities would be answerable if greenery is reduced or green areas are converted into brown.

"Greenery declined till 2020, but the data from 2023-25 shows that the percentage of greenery has increased compared to before," the state minister said.

He also called for it "not to be made a fashion to make Islamabad the target of criticism or personally hit the CDA chairman". He added that the decisions were not made by any one person, but taken under a policy.

On the criticism of infrastructure projects based on the argument that trees had to be cut for them, Chaudhry offered to give an on-ground briefing to parliamentarians and journalists on all such projects carried out under the current government.

"If any tree was removed, mature trees four times that number were planted," he asserted.

On the reason for removing the paper mulberry species, Chaudhry said "by-air seeding" was carried out during Islamabad's initial development to add greenery.

"Over time, it became evident that some of these species were hazardous to health, causing allergies and other issues," he said.

The state minister recalled the Islamabad High Court's 2009 order to speed up the eradication of paper mulberry trees to mitigate pollen allergies, and the formation of a committee in 2020 to ensure environmental protection in the capital.

He also cited a Supreme Court order from 2024, its suo motu notice and the subsequent involvement of two forest experts regarding the removal of paper mulberry trees from the F-9 Park.

As a result, a standard operating procedure (SOP) was determined wherein a survey of the tree species and numbers is first conducted, followed by a public hearing before proceeding to felling the trees.

Responding to a query by Fatyana, Chaudhry said, "We have not earned money by removing trees". Instead, he added, money has been spent to remove trees harmful to health as the roots of the paper mulberry species also need to be taken out.

Gas leak, not cylinder, caused fatal blast in G-7 sector: residents

Victims seek alternative accommodation

ISLAMABAD: The tragedy in G-7/2 that left eight people dead and around a dozen injured occurred due to a gas leak rather than a cylinder blast, says residents of the area. The affected families, however, are looking to the federal government and the Capital Development Authority (CDA) for alternative accommodation.

Initially, there were reports that the incident took place because of cylinder blast, however, visit to the site and talking to locals, it seems the tragedy happened because of gas leakage. Residents in the blast site vicinity say so far they could not find any piece of purported blasted cylinder.

The powerful explosion destroyed the roofs and walls of eight small houses in the 66-Quarters neighbourhood—an approved slum of the CDA for its sanitation workers—resulting in the collapse of structures onto people while they were asleep.

In this tragedy, eight people including a bride and the groomwere killed.

It is yet to be determined whether explosion occurred either at the wedding venue in one of the said houses, where guests were also present or in nearby houses.

The locals of the area appreciated CDAChairman Mohammad Ali Randhawa for visiting the blst site and assured his full support in providing alternative shelters and assistance.

They said that clearance operation of the damaged houses should be completed on priority basis and livable alternative houses should be allotted.

"Only we pulled out household items from one house, where wedding ceremony was in progress. Household items and belongings of victim families of all damaged houses are still lying under debris," said Babar Saleem, a relative of one of the deceased.

"We will request CDA to complete clearance operation without any delay. Our people are suffering as their luggage is still inside," he said.

He expressed apprehension over halting the clearance operation. He added that even clothes and other necessary items of these families are still under the rubble, putting them vulnerable to theft.

Brother of deceased groom said that affected families are living in houses of relatives. "All affected families should be provided alternative accommodations…we are still waiting for alternative place."

Atif Gill, a relative of one of the victim famililes said that affected families have been worried about their futures. "We are already in grief because of tragic deaths and injuries. All affected families should be provided alternate shelters as soon as possible," he said.

President of Pakistan People's Party's (PPP) Human Rights Cell former Senator Farhatullah Babar along with Information Secretary Tariq Ghauri visited the area to express solidarity with victim families.

Senator Babar urged the government to provide support to victim families and they should be provided best alternative houses immediately.

Meanwhile, Federal Minster for Parliamentary Affairs Dr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhry said that all affected families would be provided alternative best accommodations. During his visit to the area he expressed solidarity with the victim families.

"This is one of the oldest areas and every possible assistance will be provided to these affected people. Not only alternative accommodation, government will also provide cash compensation, we will not leave these families alone… we are too much upset over this tragedy and I am short of words to explain my feelings. This is a tragic incident," he said.

In response to the recent G-7 gas explosion, the Capital Development Authority (CDA) confirms that eight houses were affected, some were completely damaged while others were partially.

These houses have also been sealed for public safety. A technical team is assessing the habitability of partially damaged houses.

CDA has committed to their full repair or reconstruction of their damaged house. We have offered shelter to the affected families. Only three families have shown willingness while others have been living with their relatives.

We have identified and handed over three houses as per instructions of CDA chairman and chief commissioner. Besides, we have also initiated the proper repair & maintenance of these houses.

After the proper maintenance, these houses will soon be in a liveable condition along with all basic amenities.

The CDA and ICT Administration are in direct contact with all affected families and committed to support them through their difficult period. — Kashif Abbasi

NED UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
Director Procurement
PROCUREMENT CELL
University Road, Karachi-75270
Tel: 99261261– 68, (Ext. 2471-2220) Fax # 99261255,
Email: dp@neduet.edu.pk Website: http://www.neduet.edu.pk
Ref: No. DP/66851/8509/1023 Date: January 13, 2026

SAY NO TO CORRUPTION

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(EPADS)

NEDUET invites Sealed Bids on Single Stage One Envelope procedure from Firms having Registration with Income Tax, Sales Tax and Sindh Revenue Board (whichever is applicable) to carry out following.

Water Proofing Works at Main Campus, NEDUET.

Tender# PC/ NED /DWS/Water /8509/2026

Issuance of Documents from	Last Date of Issuance of Tender Documents	Tenders Submission Deadline	Tenders Opening Date / Time
16.01.2026	02.02.2026	03.02.2026 10:00 AM	03.02.2026 10:30 AM
Estimated Cost (Rs in Million)		10.00	
Time of Completion		Three Months	
Tender Fee (Rs)		5,000/-	

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

(i) Valid Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant category C-5 & above having specialized codes., CE10, CE10(iii) and CE-10(viii), CE-04(iv) and ME-07(i).

(ii) Registered with Sindh Revenue Board and must have active status.

(iii) Valid Registered License from Electrical Inspector for Electrical Works issued from Government of Sindh.

(iv) Last 3 years Audited Financial Statements alongwith last 3 years online Annual Returns submitted to FBR.

(v) List of Similar Projects executed in last 05 years & at least 02 projects completed with Cost of work over Rs 10 million showing Documentary Proof (Work Orders, Completion Certificate).

(vi) Affidavit on (non-judicial stamp paper) of no litigation history, non-blacklisting, never indulge in any corrupt, fraudulent and collusive practices, also undertaking that the information and documents provided with are correct. The date of issuance of said stamp paper and bidder signature on it should be later than the publication of this NIT.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

a) **Under the following conditions, Bid can be rejected:**
(i) Incomplete, Conditional and Telegraphic Bids.
(ii) Bids not accompanied by Bid Security of required amount & form.
(iii) Bids received after Specified Date and Time.
(iv) Black Listed Firms /Companies.

b) Bid Validity Period: 90 days from the date of opening of tender.

c) Bid Security: Tender Fee of Rs 5,000/- and 2% of bid cost in the form of Deposit at Call or Pay Order or Demand Draft or a Bank Guarantee issued by a scheduled bank in Pakistan or from a foreign bank duly counter guaranteed by scheduled bank in Pakistan in favor of Director Finance, NEDUET, Karachi.

Procuring Agency reserves the right to reject all or any bids subject to the relevant provisions of Sindh Public Procurement Rules 2010 (Amended up to date). Bidding documents can be obtained and shall be submitted through EPADS as per above schedule. Bidders are requested to give their Best and Final Price as "No Negotiations" is permitted. Bidding Documents containing detailed terms and conditions are available at Websites **https://www.neduet.edu.pk** and **https://www.portalsindh.eprocure.gov.pk**. In case of public holiday or any holiday or non-working day due to Force Majeure, the next official working day shall be deemed to be date for issuance, submission and opening of tenders. NEDUET shall not be responsible for any cost or expenses incurred by bidders.

Director Procurement

KARACHI SHIPYARD & ENGINEERING WORKS LTD.
ISO 9001 : 2015, ISO 14001 : 2015 & ISO 45001 : 2018 CERTIFIED
WEST WHARF ROAD, DOCKYARD
PO BOX 4419. KARACHI-74000 KSEW
Tele: 021-99214045 - 64 Fax: 00092-21-99214020
E-mail: contact@karachishipyard.com.pk
website: www.karachishipyard.com.pk

Mr. WAJID AHMED ABBASI
CC/T.No. 577/C-340
Desig / Trade: Sr. Supervisor
Address: House No. 59, Patel Parra, Nazrul-Islam Road, Karachi
Cell No. 0302-2327343

FINAL SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

1. Whereas, you, Mr. Wajid Ahmed Abbasi S/o Khushi Muhammad, CNIC No. 42201-9891044-5, CC/T. No. 577/C-340, Sr. Supervisor, presently posted at Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works (KS&EW), Karachi, have been absent from duty, without prior intimation or approved leave, since 09th September 2025 to date.
2. It is further brought to your attention that you were previously served with the following notices at your available address:
a) 1st Show Cause Notice dated 14-07-2025
b) 2nd Show Cause Notice dated 28-08-2025
c) 3rd Show Cause Notice dated 17-09-2025
3. Despite the issuance of the above notices, no written response or justification has been received from your side, to date.
4. Your continuous absence without approved leave and failure to respond to official notices amounts to serious violations and constitutes the following acts of misconduct, as per KS&EW Service Rules-2019 and applicable provisions of the Sindh Labour Laws.
5. In view of the above, you are hereby finally called upon to submit a written explanation within seven (07) days, from the date of receipt of this notice. Failing which, it shall be assumed that you have no justification to offer and ex-parte disciplinary action and legal proceedings, shall be initiated against you, in accordance with KS&EW Service Rules-2019, prevailing Sindh labour laws and relevant laws, without any further notice.

Manager (Human Resources)
Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works Limited
West Wharf, Dockyard Road
Karachi – 74000

KARACHI SHIPYARD & ENGINEERING WORKS LTD.
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WEST WHARF ROAD DOCKYARD PO BOX 4419.
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E-mail: contact@karachishipyard.com.pk
website: www.karachishipyard.com.pk

Mr. MUHAMMAD OSAMA
CC/T.No. 580/C-3415
Desig / Trade: Steel Fabricator
Address: House No. L753, Sector 03 North Karachi, Karachi
Cell No. 0324-2425405

FINAL SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

1. Whereas, you, Mr. Muhammad Osama, holding CC/T No. 580/W-3415, posted as Steel Fabricator at Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works (KS&EW), Karachi, have been absent from duty, since 09th December 2024 to date, without any prior intimation or sanctioned leave from the concerned Head of Department (HoD).
2. You were earlier served with the following notices at your available address:
a) 1st Show Cause Notice dated 09-01-2025
b) 2nd Show Cause Notice dated 20-01-2025
c) 3rd Show Cause Notice dated 31-01-2025
3. Despite issuance of the above notices, no written response or explanation has been received from your side, to date.
4. Your prolonged and unauthorized absence constitutes serious violations and is considered **Misconduct** under Service Rules-2019 and applicable Sindh Labour Laws.
5. In view of the above, you are hereby served with this Final Show Cause Notice and directed to submit your written explanation within seven (07) days of the receipt of this notice. Failing to do so will result in ex-parte disciplinary action and legal proceedings, under the provisions of the KS&EW Service Rules-2019, prevailing Sindh Labour Laws and relevant laws without any further notice.

Manager (Human Resources)
Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works Limited
West Wharf Dockyard Road
Karachi – 74000

PUBLIC AUCTION
BEFORE:- MR. ABDUL RAZZAQ, JUDGE
IN THE BANKING COURT NO- II AT KARACHI
Block No 50 Pakistan Secretariat, Sadder Karachi
Execution No 163/2011
Suit No 432/2010

Muslim Commercial Bank Limited.....Decree Holder
VERSUS

1. **M/s Khan Autos & Engineers** having its office at, Shop No 18, Pyramide Plaza, Gulshan-e-Mustafa, Federal B Area, Karachi. Through its proprietor Mr Salauddin S/o Outubuddin, R/O Flat No K-606, Rufi Lake Drive, Block-18, Gulistan-e-Johar. Karachi.
2. **Salahuddin S/o Qutubuddin,** R/O Flat No.K-606, Rufi Lake Drive, Block-18, Gulistan-e-Johar, Karachi.
3. **Nawab Aneel S/O Salahuddin**, R/O Flat No K-606, Rufi Lake Drive, Block-18, Gulistan-e-Johar, Karachi..... **Judgment Debtors**

NOTICE is hereby given that under Order 21 Rule 64 C.P.C 1908, an order has been passed by the Banking Court No. II, Karachi for sale of the attached property mentioned in the Schedule hereinunder for satisfaction of the claim of **Rs.37,845,829/-** along with cost of funds at the prevailing rate a determined by the state Bank of Pakistan from the date of filing of the suit till realization of the decreetal amount.

The undersigned will sale by way of Public Auction the below mentioned immovable property of Judgment Debtors on **18-02-2026 at 01:00 P.M at Banking Court No:-II, Karachi.**

SCHEDULE OF THE MORTGAGED IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Mortgaged property bearing House No F-1/A, measuring 1000 square yards, Block-H, situated at KDA Scheme No.2, North Nazimabad, Karachi. Market Value Rs.65,000,000/- and Forced Value Rs.55,250,000/-.

SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. The mortgaged property will be auctioned on "As is where is" basis.
2. All the taxes, utility charges, Government/Semi Government Charges, Revenue Charges upon the aforesaid property will be paid by the Auction Purchaser.
3. The person declared to be the highest bidder/purchaser shall deposit immediately 25% of the bid amount in shape of pay order in favoring the "JUDGE, BANKING COURT NO. II, KARACHI". along with photocopy of CNIC of the purchaser. No Cheque/ Cash of 25% will be accepted.
4. The balance of the bid amount shall be paid by the highest bidder before the Court closes on 15th day from the date of auction.
5. The sale shall be subject to the confirmation by the Court.
6. The Court reserves the right to cancel the auction at any time or not to accept any bid even if it is the highest and to cancel the auction at any time.

Given under my hand and the seal of court this 12th day of January, 2026.

(BY ORDER)
NAAZIR
BANKING COURT NO. II, KARACHI